

APPENDIX I- PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant (Agency & address - including zip)		Proposed Date of Completion: <u>Anticipated Dec. 2012</u>	
SANDAG 401 B Street, Ste. 800 San Diego, CA 92101		Check one City <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> MPO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COG <input type="checkbox"/> RTPA <input type="checkbox"/> JPA <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Proposal <input type="checkbox"/>	Grant Amount Requested: \$ <u>750,000</u> If Joint Proposal, list participating entities/ contact person:
Lead Applicant's Name: <u>Gary Gallegos</u> Title of Proposal (summarize the deliverable to be funded by this grant) <u>SANDAG Sustainable Communities Planning Grant & Incentive Program: Regional SB 375 Plus Funding</u>			
Applicant's Representative Authorized in Resolution Name: <u>Gary L. Gallegos</u> Title: <u>Executive Director</u> Phone: <u>(619) 699-1991</u> Email: <u>gga@sandag.org</u>		Person with Day to Day Responsibility for Plan (if different from Authorized Representative) Name: <u>Charles "Muggs" Stoll</u> Title: <u>Land Use & Transportation Director</u> Phone: <u>(619) 699-6945</u> Email: <u>mst@sandag.org</u>	
Check all of the following that are incorporated or applicable to the proposal:			
Focus Area		Program Objectives	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Focus Area # 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Applying for 20% EDC set aside
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Focus Area # 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Improve air and water quality
<input type="checkbox"/>	Focus Area # 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Promote public health
Eligibility Requirements (mandatory)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Promote equity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Consistent with State Planning Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Increase affordable housing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reduces GHG emissions on a permanent basis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Increase infill and compact development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Collaboration requirement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Revitalize urban and community centers
Priority Considerations		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Protect natural resources and agricultural lands
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrates collaboration & community involvement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reduce automobile usage and fuel consumption
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Addresses climate change impacts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Improve infrastructure systems
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Serves as best practices	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Promote water conservation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Leverages additional resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Promote energy efficiency and conservation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Serves an economically disadvantaged community	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strengthen the economy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Serves a severely disadvantaged community		
I certify that the information contained in this plan application, including required attachments, is complete and accurate Signature: <u>Gary L. Gallegos</u> Date: <u>8/31/10</u> Applicant's Authorized Representative as shown in Resolution			
Print Name and Title:			

SANDAG APPLICATION FOR THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PLANNING GRANT AND INCENTIVE PROGRAM: REGIONAL SB 375 PLUS FUNDING

2. Proposal Summary Statement

SANDAG is collaborating with other California Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to develop a coordinated approach to issues of regional and statewide concern related to successful SB 375 implementation. The MPOs have jointly identified tasks within the following three focus areas which, when completed, would address several issues presenting challenges to local and regional SB 375 implementation.

- Enhanced planning and visualization tools to inform stakeholders, interest groups, the public, under represented groups, and policy makers about potential outcomes as the major regions in California continue to grow,
- Performance indicators to evaluate and inform stakeholders, interest groups, the public, under represented groups, and policy makers on progress to implement the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), and
- Guidance on the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) streamlining provisions of SB 375 to allow local jurisdictions, land use authorities, and developers to take advantage of reduced environmental analysis for new development that follows the sustainability strategies outlined in the SCS.

The Sustainable Communities Planning Grant and Incentive Program: Regional SB 375 Plus Funding will build upon the three areas of MPO collaboration and support SANDAG activities necessary to implement SB 375 and its SCS consistent with State Planning Priorities, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, and regional greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets established by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). Specific SANDAG activities that would be funded through this planning grant include:

1. Preparing a scope of work to update the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP), adopted in 2004*, to address policy gaps between the existing RCP and 2050 RTP (which will include the Sustainable Communities Strategy),
2. Implementing and utilizing visualization tools as part of the public involvement process to update the RCP to inform stakeholders, interest groups, the public, under represented groups, and policy makers about potential outcomes as the major regions in California continue to grow,
3. Working with local jurisdictions to implement procedures and enable them to benefit from CEQA streamlining provisions outlined in SB 375, and
4. Incorporating new indicators into the RCP Monitoring Report to measure progress toward RCP and SCS implementation.

MPO collaboration will add value to the grant funding by supporting development of a collaborative statewide approach to SB 375 implementation that greatly enhances the ability of each MPO to overcome the challenges and, therefore, maximizes the benefits of SB 375 implementation to the state as a whole. Collaboration with local cities and county government is an integral component of the SANDAG proposal. All tasks also include comprehensive public outreach including involvement from traditionally under represented groups.

**While the RCP is comprehensive, it was adopted in 2004. Since that time, additional planning priorities have emerged that were not originally addressed in the RCP including public health, social equity, environmental justice, and climate change; essential components of successful SB 375 implementation. Additionally since adoption of the RCP, SANDAG has adopted several policy documents and plans with refined recommendations on issues related to sustainable development that complement the RCP.*

**SANDAG APPLICATION FOR THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PLANNING GRANT AND INCENTIVE
PROGRAM: REGIONAL SB 375 PLUS FUNDING**

3. Proposal Description

STEP 1. THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS

1. Proposal Consistency with the State's Planning Priorities

a. Promote infill development and invest in existing communities.

In 2004, the SANDAG Board of Directors unanimously adopted a Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) based upon smart growth and sustainability, consistent with the State Planning Priorities (Section 65041.1(a)). This planning effort considered the region's borders with Mexico, neighboring counties, and 17 tribal nations and involved the development of a Smart Growth Concept Map which has been used to prioritize regional transportation investments and incentive funds in existing communities where mixed use and higher density development is planned. The Smart Growth Concept Map (adopted in 2006) also illustrates the habitat planning areas, the region's "greenprint," which represents decades of close collaboration among the region's local jurisdictions. The map further identifies areas with good transit service for higher density housing to meet the region's housing needs and higher intensity employment (Smart Growth Opportunity Areas) and the major employment areas in the region.

The Proposal will provide further refinements regarding how infill development and investment in existing communities is encouraged in the context of SB 375 implementation, the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), and emerging planning priorities such as climate change, social equity, environmental justice, and public health. It will support SANDAG activities necessary to facilitate local and regional implementation of the SCS and integrate sustainability planning priorities into an update of the RCP as described below:

- Integrating sustainability planning priorities like SB 375 and the SCS into the RCP will ensure that policies supporting infill development and investment in existing communities reflect additional issues of concern such as public health, social equity, environmental justice, and climate change.
- Developing visualization tools will help stakeholders understand and shape infill development outcomes in their communities.
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) streamlining guidance will facilitate infill development by helping local jurisdictions, land use authorities, and developers take advantage of the streamlining provisions outlined in SB 375.
- Incorporating new indicators into the RCP Monitoring Report will measure the effectiveness of regional strategies to promote infill development.

b. Protect, preserve, and enhance environmental and agricultural lands and natural and recreational resources.

The RCP promotes the protection of environmental and agricultural land and natural and recreational resources as identified in the State Planning Priorities (Section 65041.1(b)). Local jurisdictions in the region have closely collaborated for decades to identify habitat-planning areas, which are identified on the Smart Growth Concept Map of the RCP and in the Regional Growth Forecast, and will be incorporated into the SCS. The SCS will identify other sensitive resource areas including important agricultural and farmlands to refine the San Diego region's "greenprint." The scope of work to update the RCP will identify tasks needed to further refine sensitive resource protection through the integration of policy recommendations for sensitive resource areas from the SCS into an update of the RCP. The proposed activities that address issues presenting challenges to local and regional SB 375 implementation also would promote the protection of sensitive environmental, agricultural, and recreational resources by facilitating mixed use and higher density infill development (see 1a. above) and location efficient development (see 1c. below) that help relieve development pressure in sensitive resource areas.

c. Encourage location and resource efficient development.

The RCP and SCS promote the direction of public transit and other transportation facility improvements, infrastructure investments, and incentive funds to areas planned for mixed use, higher density development within urban, suburban, and rural communities. While infill development and investment in existing communities are primary outcomes of the coordinated planning described above, mixed use, higher density development that can be served by public transit in new development areas also is encouraged. The Proposal enhances regional efforts to encourage location and resource efficient development in the context of SB 375 implementation, climate change, and other emerging planning priorities by:

- Developing and utilizing visualization tools to help stakeholders envision and support different sustainable community scenarios in infill and new development areas.
- Preparing a scope of work to integrate sustainability policies from the SCS and other plans into an update of the RCP to, among outcomes, facilitate new development in only the most location and resource efficient areas by strengthening protection of sensitive resources as described above and placing a higher priority on climate change and greenhouse gas emissions reduction policies.
- Providing CEQA streamlining guidance so that local jurisdictions, land use authorities, and developers are rewarded with incentives for planning location and resource efficient new development.
- In collaboration with other California MPOs, incorporating new indicators reflecting key elements of SB 375 and the Sustainable Communities Strategy into the RCP Monitoring Report to monitor progress.

2. How the Proposal Will Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions Consistent With:

a. California's Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006.

i. How will the Proposal reduce greenhouse gas emissions as compared with business as usual through 2020 and beyond?

The Proposal will support SANDAG activities necessary to implement the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) element of the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), which will identify sustainability strategies for the purpose of meeting the regional greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets established by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). Establishing regional greenhouse gas emissions targets for MPOs will help California reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions to the 1990 level by 2020 as required by the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. More efficient land use and transportation patterns resulting from successful implementation of SANDAG's SCS will encourage fewer and shorter driving trips and increased transit ridership, walking, and bicycling, which in turn lowers greenhouse gas emissions as compared with business as usual development patterns. Meeting the targets will result in lower per capita greenhouse gas emissions in 2020 and 2035 relative to a 2005 baseline. Therefore, the Proposal supports activities that will reduce per capita greenhouse gas emissions from cars and light trucks through 2020 and 2035 consistent with California's Global Warming Solutions Act.

ii. Identify the indicators that will be used to measure whether the Proposal will meet greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets or requirements.

CARB will establish regional greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets measured in pounds of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions per capita. As a result, per capita CO₂ emissions from cars and light trucks will be the indicator used to measure progress toward regional greenhouse gas emissions targets in the SCS of the 2050 RTP. Per capita CO₂ emissions from cars and light trucks will be evaluated by SANDAG in collaboration with other California MPOs as one of the indicators to measure whether the Proposal will meet greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets and to monitor SB 375 implementation in the RCP Monitoring Report.

b. Any applicable regional plan.

i. Cite any applicable regional plan(s).

SANDAG Regional Comprehensive Plan. In 2004, the SANDAG Board of Directors, composed of mayors, councilmembers, and county supervisors, unanimously adopted an RCP based upon smart growth and sustainability principles, consistent with the State's Planning Priorities as identified in

Government Code Section 65041.1. This planning effort considered the region's borders with Mexico, neighboring counties and 17 tribal nations and involved the development of a Smart Growth Concept Map which is used to prioritize regional transportation facility improvements and other infrastructure investments and incentive funds in locations where mixed use and higher density development is planned. The Smart Growth Concept Map also illustrates the habitat planning areas, which represent decades of close collaboration among the region's local jurisdictions. The map further identifies areas for higher density housing to meet the region's housing needs and the major employment areas in the region.

SANDAG regularly produces an RCP Monitoring Report to monitor progress toward RCP implementation. The report provides the most recent data on 39 performance indicators (identified in Appendix J) and summarizes the areas in which progress appears headed in the right direction as well as areas for improvement. In collaboration with other California MPOs, SANDAG will be working with stakeholders to supplement the existing 39 indicators to incorporate key elements of SB 375 and the Sustainable Communities Strategy.

SANDAG 2050 Regional Transportation Plan. SANDAG is now preparing the 2050 RTP, the first large region in California to prepare an RTP under new climate change legislation (SB 375). The new law requires that the RTP include a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) to demonstrate how development patterns and the transportation network, policies, and programs can work together to achieve greenhouse gas emission targets for cars and light trucks. The 2050 RTP and SCS, with its greater emphasis on climate change, housing, and social equity, will set the stage for an update to the RCP. The RTP and applicable SCS policies will serve as its mobility chapter. Like the RCP, the SCS will encourage more compact development patterns that can be served by public transit and provide residents more housing and transportation choices through incentives and collaboration. In this effort to date, SANDAG has been working closely with the other MPOs in the state to share information and coordinate efforts.

ii. **Describe how your Proposal will be consistent with the greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies in the applicable regional plan(s).**

The Proposal will support SANDAG activities necessary to implement the SCS element of the 2050 RTP, which will identify sustainability strategies for the purpose of meeting the greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets established by CARB. SANDAG activities to address several issues presenting challenges to local and regional SB 375 implementation will help fully maximize the greenhouse gas emissions reduction potential of the sustainability strategies identified in the SCS. Therefore, the Proposal is consistent with the greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies in the applicable regional plan.

3. Collaboration Requirement

SANDAG collaborates with the other MPOs in the state to better understand how SB 375 will be implemented and will continue this collaboration with grant funds. In addition, SANDAG closely collaborates with the incorporated cities and the unincorporated areas within San Diego County. See the attached letters of support from participating partners as it relates to work that would be completed as part of this grant request.

STEP 2. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Improve Air and Water Quality

The Proposal will support SANDAG activities necessary to implement the SCS and address sustainability planning priorities in the context of an update to the RCP. More efficient land use and transportation patterns and the higher priority on greenhouse gas emissions reduction policies resulting from successful SCS implementation and the RCP update will encourage fewer and shorter driving trips and increase the viability of public transit, walking, and bicycling. These efforts also will support transportation demand management measures to reduce single occupancy vehicle trips such as carpooling and teleworking. One outcome of lower vehicle miles traveled (VMT), among others, will be lower criteria air pollutant emissions and improved air quality. San Diego County is currently designated a non-

attainment area for state and federal ozone standards. Lowering VMT will reduce ozone precursor emissions and help the San Diego Air Pollution Control District make progress toward attainment of the federal ozone standard, consistent with the State Implementation Plan. As shown in Appendix J, the number of days the Air Quality Index exceeds 100 is the air quality indicator tracked in the existing RCP Monitoring Report. In collaboration with other California MPOs, under this Proposal, SANDAG will be working with stakeholders to supplement the existing air quality indicator to incorporate key elements of SB 375 and the SCS.

SANDAG activities under this Proposal also will support improved water quality. Regional water quality is largely affected by polluted runoff resulting from urbanization in the region's watersheds. As described previously, the Proposal will facilitate more compact development patterns and greater protection of sensitive resource areas including habitat conservation planning areas. Implementing these policies through an RCP update and the SB 375 implementation tasks will minimize increases in the amount of urbanized land within the region's watersheds, which will support improved water quality consistent with the San Diego Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. As shown in Appendix J, the following indicators from the existing RCP Monitoring Report will be used to measure the water quality outcomes of the Proposal: acres of impaired water bodies and number of beach mile closure days.

Promote Public Health

The Proposal will support SANDAG activities to implement the SCS and address sustainability planning priorities including public health in the context of an update to the RCP. SANDAG has been allocated \$3 million from the \$16.1 million Centers for Disease Control: Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) initiative launched by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to create healthier communities. This funding will support the development of policy recommendations for public health goals in the next update of the RCP. Additional public health interventions supported by the CPPW funding include creation of a GIS-based health impact assessment tool that evaluates public health implications of land use and transportation scenarios, pass through grants to local jurisdictions to develop public health elements in their general plans and to prepare active transportation community plans, a regionwide Safe Routes to School Strategic Plan and pass through grants to communities to implement the plan, and expansion of the SANDAG active commuter program.

This Proposal will provide further refinements to these public health interventions in the context of the RCP update as well as issues of concern including climate change, social equity, environmental justice, and other planning priorities associated with SB 375 implementation. Moreover, the RCP update will further promote public health by incorporating recommendations from the San Diego Regional Bicycle Plan, approved in 2010. This Proposal also promotes public health by encouraging efficient land use and transportation planning that improves alternatives to driving, which, among other benefits, alleviates public health problems by supporting walking and bicycling as viable modes of transportation (see 2.a.i. above) and decreasing ozone precursor emissions. There are currently no public health indicators identified in the existing RCP Monitoring Report. SANDAG will collaborate with other California MPOs to identify public health indicators that incorporate key elements of SB 375 and the SCS.

Promote Equity

The Proposal will support SANDAG activities to implement the SCS and address sustainability planning priorities including social equity in the context of an update to the RCP. SANDAG has funding for and is currently implementing a comprehensive public outreach and involvement program related to the 2050 RTP. A Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group has been developed and Environmental Justice grants have been made to community-based organizations to involve them in the process. The goal of this effort is to involve non-traditional, as well as traditional audiences, to raise their awareness of the transportation planning process under way and the broad goals to better connect transportation and land use planning. While SANDAG's public involvement plan is focused on soliciting public input in the development of the SCS and refining the RTP, no resources currently exist for such a process to be conducted around the implementation of the SCS in the context of the RCP update. Funding for the proposal would enable SANDAG to conduct outreach with non-traditional, as well as traditional audiences, as part of SCS implementation and the RCP update.

The Proposal tasks promote equity by including a comprehensive public outreach strategy that reaches out to traditionally under represented groups including economically disadvantaged communities and uses the input gained

to help shape the work efforts. This strategy includes the use of planning and visualization tools to inform under represented groups including economically disadvantaged communities about the potential outcomes of continued growth in the context of SB 375 implementation in their communities. Performance indicators to measure the equity outcomes in the existing RCP Monitoring Report, as shown in Appendix J, include labor force educational attainment, employment growth in high-wage economic clusters, the regional unemployment rate compared to California and the United States, real per capita income, and the regional poverty rate compared to California and the United States. In collaboration with other California MPOs, under this Proposal, SANDAG will be working with stakeholders to supplement the existing air quality indicator to incorporate key elements of SB 375 and the SCS. Developing additional performance indicators will allow stakeholders including disadvantaged communities to evaluate implementation of sustainability policies and identify when course corrections may be required.

Increase Housing Affordability

Addressing challenges to SB 375 implementation will help increase housing affordability in the region. As described above (see section 2.b.i), the existing Smart Growth Concept Map, which prioritizes regional transportation investments and incentive funds in location where mixed use and higher density development is planned, also identifies areas for higher density housing to meet the region's housing needs. The SCS must show how land use patterns, including affordable housing sites identified through the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) process, will be combined with transportation investments, policies, and other measures to meet greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets established by CARB. By addressing challenges to local and regional SB 375 implementation including CEQA streamlining guidance and development of visualization tools, this Proposal will encourage development of affordable housing within walkable communities served by public transit, which will be critical to reducing commuting distances and VMT to meet the targets established by CARB.

As shown in Appendix J, the following indicators in the existing RCP Monitoring Report will be used to measure the outcomes of the Proposal with respect to increased housing affordability: the Housing Opportunity Index, percent of households with housing costs greater than 35 percent of income, ratio of new jobs to housing units, share of new and existing housing units by structure type and income category, vacancy rates, percent of households living in overcrowded conditions, and number of households on the waiting list for Section 8 vouchers.

Promote Infill and Compact Development

As described above (see section 1.a), the existing RCP promotes infill development as identified in the State Planning Priorities (Section 65041.1(a)). Targeting compact infill development, transportation facility improvements, other infrastructure investments, and incentive funds toward existing communities are integral components of the existing RCP and the SCS. The Proposal will provide further refinements to how compact infill development and investment in existing communities is encouraged in the context of SCS implementation and emerging planning priorities such as climate change, social equity, environmental justice, and public health. Specifically, the Proposal will promote infill and compact development through the development and utilization of enhanced planning and visualization tools, working with local jurisdictions to implement procedures that enable them to benefit from CEQA streamlining provisions outlined in SB 375, and integrating planning priorities like the SCS into an updated RCP to ensure that policies supporting infill development and investment in existing communities reflect additional issues of concern such as public health, social equity, environmental justice, and climate change.

The existing RCP Monitoring Report monitors the share of new housing units and jobs located in Smart Growth Opportunity Areas to determine progress on promoting infill and compact development. In collaboration with other California MPOs, under this Proposal, SANDAG will be working with stakeholders to supplement the existing infill and compact development indicator to incorporate key elements of SB 375 and the SCS.

Revitalize Urban and Community Centers

As described above (see Promote Infill and Compact Development), the Proposal will provide further refinements to policies promoting compact infill development and increased investment in existing communities, including urban and community centers as well as other recognized smart growth place types (e.g., mixed use transit corridors and rural villages), in the context of SCS implementation and emerging planning priorities such as climate change, social

equity, environmental justice, and public health. Infill development and increased investment will support the revitalization of underutilized urban and community centers and other communities.

As shown in Appendix J, the existing RCP Monitoring Report monitors the share of new housing units and jobs located in Smart Growth Opportunity Areas to determine progress toward the revitalization of urban and community centers. In collaboration with other California MPOs, under this Proposal, SANDAG will be working with stakeholders to supplement the existing indicator to incorporate key elements of SB 375 and the SCS.

Protect Natural Resources and Agricultural Lands

As described above (see section 1.b), the existing RCP generally promotes the protection of environmental and agricultural land and natural and recreational resources as identified in the State Planning Priorities (Section 65041.1(b)). Local jurisdictions in the region have closely collaborated for decades to identify habitat conservation planning areas, which are identified on the Smart Growth Concept Map of the RCP and also will be incorporated into the SCS. The State recognizes the habitat conservation programs sponsored by local agencies in the region as ongoing multi-species plans under the Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) guidelines. The SCS will identify other sensitive resource areas including important agricultural and farmlands and natural resources. This Proposal will provide further refinements to protection of sensitive natural resources and agricultural lands in the context of emerging planning priorities such as climate change, public health, and the natural resources and agricultural protection policies of the SCS. The Proposal activities that address issues presenting challenges to local and regional SB 375 implementation, including development enhanced planning and visualization tools and CEQA streamlining guidance, also would promote the protection of sensitive natural resources and agricultural lands by facilitating mixed use and higher density infill development (see section 1a.) and location efficient development (see section 1c.) that helps relieve development pressure in sensitive resource areas.

As shown in Appendix J, the existing RCP Monitoring Report monitors habitat conserved within designated preserve areas, percent of preserve areas being actively maintained, and share of new housing units and jobs within the County Water Authority service boundary to measure progress on the protection of natural resources and agricultural lands. In collaboration with other California MPOs, under this Proposal, SANDAG will be working with stakeholders to supplement the existing natural resources and agricultural lands indicators to incorporate key elements of SB 375 and the SCS.

Reduce Automobile Usage and Fuel Consumption

As described above (see section 2.a.i and the Improved Air and Water Quality section), the Proposal will support SANDAG activities necessary to implement the SCS, including strategies identified for the purpose of meeting the regional greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets established by CARB. Greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies include more efficient land use and transportation patterns that reduce VMT and automobile usage by encouraging fewer and shorter driving trips and increase the viability of public transit, walking, and bicycling as well as transportation demand management measures to reduce single occupancy vehicle trips such as carpooling and teleworking. By supporting the implementation of greenhouse gas emissions reduction measures identified in the SCS, this Proposal will reduce automobile usage and transportation fuel consumption. The transportation-related measures will be consistent with the SANDAG 2050 RTP and California Transportation Plan.

As shown in Appendix J, the existing RCP Monitoring Report monitors annual transit ridership and commute mode shares to measure progress on the reduction of automobile usage and fuel consumption. In collaboration with other California MPOs, under this Proposal, SANDAG will be working with stakeholders to supplement the existing automobile and fuel consumption indicators to incorporate key elements of SB 375 and the SCS.

Improve Infrastructure Systems

As described above (see Promote Infill and Compact Development), the Proposal will provide further refinements to policies promoting compact, mixed use development, transportation facility improvements, and increased infrastructure investments in existing communities and location efficient new developments. This strategy is expected to result in more efficient use of existing and future infrastructure investments, and therefore contribute to improvements in the region's infrastructure systems. As shown in Appendix J, the existing RCP Monitoring Report monitors the diversity of water supply, percent of solid waste that is recycled, and landfill space available to

determine progress toward the improvement of infrastructure systems. In collaboration with other California MPOs, under this Proposal, SANDAG will be working with stakeholders to supplement the existing indicators to incorporate key elements of SB 375 and the SCS.

Promote Water Conservation

The Proposal will provide further refinements to policies promoting compact, mixed use development in existing communities and location efficient new developments, which generally consume less water than conventional development patterns. In addition, the Proposal involves preparation of a scope of work to update the RCP, which will include emerging planning priorities in water conservation in the context of climate change and sustainable development. As shown in Appendix J, the existing RCP Monitoring Report monitors water consumption and recycled water use to determine progress of efforts to promote water conservation. In collaboration with other California MPOs, under this Proposal, SANDAG will be working with stakeholders to supplement the existing indicators to incorporate key elements of SB 375 and the SCS.

Promote Energy Efficiency and Conservation

The Proposal will provide further refinements to policies promoting compact, mixed use development served by public transit and increased opportunities for walking and bicycling. In general, these land use and transportation patterns are energy efficient, in terms of transportation and non-transportation energy sources, than conventional development patterns. In addition, the Proposal involves preparation of a scope of work to update the RCP, which will include emerging planning priorities in energy efficiency and conservation in the context of climate change. The RCP update will draw on, among others, two recent SANDAG planning efforts, the 2009 update of the Regional Energy Strategy and the first-of-its-kind 2010 Climate Action Strategy, as well as key elements of State climate change efforts such as applicable strategies from the Scoping Plan.

As shown in Appendix J, the existing RCP Monitoring Report monitors regional energy by source, share of energy produced from renewable sources, per capita peak demand for electricity, electricity consumption by sector, and natural gas consumption by sector to determine progress on energy efficiency and conservation. In collaboration with other California MPOs, under this Proposal, SANDAG will be working with stakeholders to supplement the existing indicators to incorporate key elements of SB 375 and the SCS.

Strengthen the Economy

The Proposal will further refine policies to encourage compact, mixed use development patterns including sites for the region's affordable housing needs that can be served by public transit and provide residents more housing and transportation choices in the context of SB 375 and emerging planning priorities such as social equity and climate change. These strategies will contribute to a stronger economy by promoting mobility on the transportation to provide people and goods with efficient access to jobs and markets, increasing affordable housing opportunities, linking those affordable housing opportunities with the wage levels of nearby jobs, providing more affordable transportation options, improving employee retention and increase purchasing power by lowering households' combined housing and transportation costs, and increasing resiliency to petroleum price volatility.

As shown in Appendix J, the existing RCP Monitoring Report monitors labor force educational attainment, employment growth in high-wage economic clusters, regional unemployment rate compared to California and the United States, real per capita income, and regional poverty rate compared to California and the United State to determine progress on efforts to strengthen the economy. In collaboration with other California MPOs, under this Proposal, SANDAG will be working with stakeholders to supplement the existing indicators to incorporate key elements of SB 375 and the SCS.

STEP 3. PRIORITY CONSIDERATIONS

1. Proposal demonstrates ongoing collaboration with state, regional and local, public and private stakeholders and community involvement (include in work plan).

a. Describe tasks undertaken by all entities involved in the work plan.

SANDAG has a track record and reputation for engaging multiple stakeholders in its planning processes. Over the past several years, SANDAG has taken great steps to engage non-traditional planning partners that have not actively

participated in regional planning activities in the past. All steps of the SGC grant would include on-going engagement with SANDAG partners, both traditional and non-traditional (public and private), including representatives from lower income communities and tribal nations.

b. Describe how other entities will be engaged in the development and/or implementation of the Proposal (e.g., local governments, state entities, COGs, MPOs, transit agencies, health agencies, air districts, local businesses, landowners, general public, environmental groups, low-income households, and/or groups that represent them, etc.).

SANDAG, along with the other large MPOs in the state have initiated a collaborative information exchange to discuss the SB 375 greenhouse gas emissions target setting process as well as other aspects of SB 375 implementation including modeling, planning and legal issues. It is anticipated that SGC grant funds would facilitate the continuation of that valuable process to continue collaborative SB 375 implementation. This implementation also includes input from local stakeholders involved with the RTP development (including transit agencies, Caltrans, low-income and minority populations, policy makers, environmental groups, other special districts, and community stakeholders). The SANDAG Board of Directors has established a detailed public participation plan to ensure inclusion of all interest groups and groups that are traditionally under-represented in the planning process. The SGC grant proposal would enable SANDAG to continue this level of outreach to the RCP update, visualization, CEQA streamlining guidelines implementation, and performance indicator monitoring.

c. Describe how the community will be engaged in the planning process.

SANDAG relies on technical and stakeholder input throughout the planning process to complete many work elements at the agency. SANDAG staffs several working groups, which meet regularly to provide input on regional planning issues. Examples of these working groups includes the region's local planning directors, and public works directors (or city engineers), and tribal leaders. Stakeholder input is gathered through working groups that include at-large citizen representatives, interest group representatives, and through workshops, community meetings and other targeted outreach to under represented populations. SANDAG would continue to engage these stakeholders as well as expand outreach to under represented communities that are affected by regional planning decisions. SANDAG has developed an award-winning collaborative relationship with the region's 17 tribal nations, which is a good example and framework of how SANDAG could continue outreach to the tribes and other non-traditional groups. Each component of the SGC grant proposal includes tasks that would rely heavily on community and stakeholder input.

2. Proposal demonstrates strategies or outcomes that can serve as best practices for communities across the state.

a. Does the proposal include tools or processes that could be easily accessed and used by other government agencies to develop plans or strategies for sustainable communities?

Yes. SANDAG anticipates documenting processes funded through this grant so that other regions could benefit from what is learned in completing the specific tasks.

- **Scope of Work for RCP update** - The scope of work to update the RCP could be utilized in other regions to update regional Blueprint Plans.
- **Visualization** - The visualization tools that are utilized with grant funds could be used in other regions to demonstrate similar or new land use/transportation relationships.
- **CEQA streamlining provision** - The CEQA streamlining guidance would be used by multiple jurisdictions in the San Diego region, and could be used by other regions, to benefit from specific SB 375 provisions.
- **Updated RCP Monitoring Report** - The RCP monitoring report could be applied in other regions as a template to disseminate regional data.

b. How will your agency promote and share the Proposal's information, tools, or processes?

In addition to posting all information on the SANDAG Web site, SANDAG regularly participates on panels, roundtables, and work sessions aimed at sharing information with interested audiences. This could be in the form of

conference participation, authorship of articles, information sharing sessions, and speakers' bureau opportunities. In addition, SANDAG would continue to share information with the other MPOs, which is the best way to "normalize" implementation of SB 375 provisions. Finally, SANDAG would comply with all grant reporting conditions and would gladly participate in any coordinated statewide information dissemination regarding the application of these grant funds.

3. Proposal is leveraged with additional resources, in-kind or funds. Identify in Appendix L, Budget.

a. Identify funding sources and amount already committed to the proposal and expected timing of funds. Detail whether funds are in the form of cash contributions, in-kind services, volunteer effort, donated labor or materials, technical expertise, etc.

These funds would be leveraged with SANDAG FTA (5303) MPO formula planning funds, FTA (5307) formula transit planning funds, and FHWA formula planning funds. In addition, SANDAG will rely on approximately 20 percent local funding which could be a combination of TDA planning funds and/or SANDAG member assessment paid by the local jurisdictions in the San Diego region.

In addition, the San Diego region was awarded \$16.1 million from the Centers for Disease Control: Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW), an initiative launched by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to create healthier communities through sustainable, proven, population-based approaches such as broad-based policy, systems, organizational, and environmental changes in communities and schools. SANDAG has been allocated \$3 million from this program to develop the following public health interventions:

- Policy recommendations for public health goals in the next update of the RCP,
- A GIS-based health impact assessment tool that evaluate public health implications of land use and transportation scenarios,
- Pass through grants to local jurisdictions to develop public health elements in their general plans and to prepare active transportation community plans,
- A Regionwide Safe Routes to School Strategic Plan and pass through grants to communities to implement the plan, and
- Expansion of the SANDAG active commuter program.

b. Identify potential future funding sources and the amount expected to be committed to the proposal. Detail whether funds are in the form of cash contributions, in-kind services, volunteer effort, donated labor or materials, technical expertise, etc.

SANDAG, as a sub-participant with the City of San Diego, recently submitted a grant request to the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under their Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program. The grant request totaled \$5 million of which SANDAG requested \$850,000. These funds would be applied to the initial collaborative efforts with the MPOs. These SGC funds would build on that anticipated effort.

4. Proposal addresses climate change impacts.

a. Identify the potential climate change impacts on the population, or human or natural areas, or systems most vulnerable to those impacts within the planning area.

All four activities outlined in the grant request address climate change impacts and that relationship to population distribution in the region. For example, fire hazard and development in the backcountry is particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts. The four elements of the grant request would facilitate development in the urbanized areas of the region.

b. How does the proposal improve adaptation to the impacts for these populations, human or natural areas, or systems?

One of the four components of this grant request leads to an update to the SANDAG RCP. The initial step in this process would be to develop a scope of work based on gaps that have been identified from the original adoption of the RCP (2004) and the adoption of the SCS (anticipated summer, 2011). One gap that exists is how the plan

addresses climate change impacts and adaptation to climate change. While the RCP includes a detailed analysis of the region's natural resources, the integration of climate change effects and adaptation will bridge that existing gap.

5. Proposal serves an economically disadvantaged community.

a. How will this proposal specifically benefit a disadvantaged or severely disadvantaged community?

All four components will serve economically disadvantaged communities.

- **RCP Scope of Work** - An issue raised through the environmental justice analysis of the 2050 RTP has been the conundrum of promoting smart growth without inducing gentrification. This issue has been raised by representatives from vulnerable communities around San Diego. What types of policies would cities need to implement in order to protect these communities as investments are made in transit infrastructure and services? The scope of work for the RCP Update will incorporate evaluation of this issue.
- **Visualization** - Vulnerable communities often have language or cultural barriers to participating in a meaningful way in regional planning processes. SANDAG will facilitate incorporation of tools for visualizations that may not only rely on computer programs, but other graphic techniques. Tools are only as good as their facilitators. SANDAG will be partnering with community collaboratives in the most vulnerable communities in the region to ensure that the visualization tools are relevant and utilized through networks of community-based organizations with staff who reflect the demographics and cultural profiles of the communities they serve.
- **CEQA Streamlining** - The CEQA streamlining guidance could be utilized throughout the region in both traditional and non-traditional communities.
- **Updated RCP Performance Indicators and Monitoring** - A statewide discussion is currently occurring regarding meaningful indicators for social equity and environmental justice. There is debate regarding indices of vulnerability and their usefulness in evaluating the performance of these planning efforts. Based on the successful effort for the RTP, SANDAG will bring together leaders from various disadvantaged communities to discuss and evaluate potential indicators for the RCP and SCS implementation. Their insight will contribute to the selection of the final indicators, which will be incorporated into an updated RCP Monitoring Report in the fall of 2012.

b. Discuss how the economically disadvantaged community has been and will continue to be engaged and participatory in the development of the proposal.

Several innovations have been implemented for the 2050 RTP process to both strengthen the Environmental Justice analysis as well as to fully engage Communities of Concern in the process in a timely and meaningful way. Please see the attachment titled, Project Area Map: Environmental Justice Communities, which illustrates economically disadvantaged communities in the region. SANDAG created a mini-grant community-based outreach program in which the agency took on eight partner collaboratives in identified communities of concern all over the county. These organizations serve as forums for discussing quality of life issues in their respective communities and have the social capital to engage their respective communities in ways that make sense to their constituents—both in terms of language, culture, and organizational dynamics.

Each of the grantee organizations has a representative on the 2050 RTP Regional Stakeholders Working Group so that the issues of relevant to vulnerable communities are heard throughout the decision-making process leading to the development of the 2050 RTP. The grantee representatives serve as both a conduit to the issues of their communities as well as a resource to their communities on issues related to the development of the 2050 RTP.

Early on in the process, several workshops with representatives from Communities of Concern and advocacy organizations were held to elicit key issues in transportation facing these communities. SANDAG staff reviewed and analyzed the input, identified those for which data exists and could be utilized in the development of social equity indicators for both project evaluation criteria and plan performance measures. For policy level issues, a chapter will be developed in the RTP to discuss them and recommend strategies for addressing them. An Ad Hoc subcommittee of Environmental Justice was formed from members of the Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group to develop this policy chapter.

STEP 4. Organizational Capacity

1) What is your organization's experience in completing this type of Proposal or similar Proposals? Is the expertise needed for the successful development of the Proposal available within the organization? If not, how do you plan to acquire it?

SANDAG was awarded \$1 million from Caltrans in 2002 to complete the first Regional Comprehensive Plan in the state. Since FY 2006, SANDAG has been awarded four Blueprint Planning grants from the State of California totaling over \$1.4 million to implement key strategic initiatives identified in the RCP including a smart growth trip generation study, smart growth design guidelines, and transit oriented development strategy. In addition, SANDAG has obtained other planning grant funds to support similar activities and has a good track record of delivering high quality results. SANDAG has institutional capacity for most of the work elements identified in the SGC proposal; however, some select aspects would be completed with consultant assistance. SANDAG would use our standard procurement process to acquire the additional assistance needed.

2) Do you have active partners that will help develop the Proposal? How?

SANDAG works collaboratively with the other MPOs in the state as well as SANDAG member agencies (the 18 cities and unincorporated County of San Diego) and tribal governments. SANDAG would rely on this on-going collaboration to implement all aspects of the grant as outlined in Step 3, Section 1 of this proposal.

3) How will the Proposal be kept on schedule and within budget?

SANDAG prepares quarterly reports to track progress on budget and schedule for all projects. Each project report indicates if there are areas of concern regarding budget, schedule, and products. In addition, staff identifies what is anticipated to be completed in the upcoming quarter and identifies anticipated problems that would prevent the work from being completed according to schedule. This would supplement any grant reporting requirements that may be required more frequently.

4) If the Proposal goes over budget, explain your contingency plan to cover the cost.

SANDAG would closely monitor the work to ensure a course correction occurred before experiencing budget issues. SANDAG would identify areas in the SANDAG overall work program budget where any identified shortfall could be met within the capacity of the SANDAG budget.

5) Identify in the work plan how the proposal will be implemented, including zoning updates if applicable.

The work program would be implemented in coordination with SANDAG's overall work program. The tasks identified in the SGC request are compatible with on-going regional planning priorities within SANDAG's other MPO responsibilities.